

CLAIMS

1. A communication substrate, comprising:
 - a substrate suitable for communicating a message to an intended recipient, said substrate having first and second faces, top and bottom edges and first and second sides;
 - a coating applied to at least a portion of said substrate on at least one of said first and second faces, said coating having a starch component; and
 - a fracture area created in said portion to provide at least one removable element.
2. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said substrate is sized and configured to be handled by an imaging device.
3. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said removable element is selected from a group including cards, labels, tags, bands, placards, signs, tickets and combinations thereof.
4. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said coating creates a differential texture.
5. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said starch component is selected from a group including corn, potato, wheat, rice, tapioca, maize, sorghum, starch esters and starch flours and combinations thereof.
6. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said coating includes a second component selected from a group including varnishes, overcoatings, inks, adhesives, curable coatings and combinations thereof.
7. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said starch component ranges from about 0.01% to about 99.9% by weight of said coating.

8. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said starch component is a starch ester having from 2 to 100 carbon atoms.

9. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said fracture area extends around a perimeter of said one removable element.

10. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said coating is applied in a pattern complimentary to said one removable element.

11. A communication substrate as recited in claim 1, wherein said removable element is removed from the fracture area by bending at least said portion of the substrate out of a horizontal plane.

12. A business form having a removable card, comprising;
a business form having first and second areas, front and back faces, top and bottom edges and first and second sides;
a fracturable coating provided in a portion of one of said first and second areas;
and
a crush pattern applied to said portion to create at least one removable card with said crush pattern provided around a perimeter of said at least one removable card.

13. A business form as recited in claim 12, wherein said coating includes a first starch component selected from a group including corn, potato, wheat, rice, tapioca, maize, sorghum, starch esters and starch flours and combinations thereof.

14. A business form as recited in claim 12, wherein said coating includes a second component selected from a group including varnishes, overcoatings, inks, adhesives, curable coatings and combinations thereof.

15. A business form as recited in claim 12, wherein said at least one removable card is selected from a group including membership cards, business cards, identification cards, loyalty program cards, participation cards and combinations thereof.

16. A business form as recited in claim 12, wherein said coating creates a differential tactile texture on said business form.

17. A business form as recited in claim 13, wherein said starch component ranges from about 0.01% to about 99.9% by weight of said coating.

18. A business form as recited in claim 12, wherein said at least one of said first and second areas are provided with printing.

19. A method of producing a communication substrate having at least one removable element, comprising the steps of;
providing a substrate;
coating a fracturable material on a portion of said substrate; and
applying a crush pattern to said portion over said coating to create at least one removable element.

20. A method as recited in claim 19, including a further step of imaging said communication substrate after the step of providing a substrate.

21. A method as recited in claim 19, including a further step of fracturing said coating to remove said at least one removable element after the step of applying the crush pattern.

22. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein said fracturable material includes a starch component selected from a group including corn, potato, wheat, rice, tapioca, maize, sorghum, starch esters and starch flours and combinations thereof.

23. A business form having at least one removable piece provided integrally with the business form comprising;

a substrate capable of receiving printing or imaging, said substrate having front and back faces, top and bottom edges and first and second sides;

a starch containing coating provided on at least a portion of said substrate;

a crush pattern applied to said portion of said substrate to create a removable element that is readily identifiable; and

wherein said removable element with said coating is tactilely distinguishable from uncoated portions of said substrate.

24. A business form as recited in claim 23, wherein said coating creates a discontinuous surface.

25. A business form containing a fracturable coating, comprising;

a substrate having a front face and a back face,

a coating applied to at least a portion of one of said front and back faces;

a crush pattern applied to said portion to create a removable element; and

wherein said coating with said crush pattern enable said removable element to be released from said portion by bending or flexing said substrate.